

2
CONSTITUTION

OF THE

PATRIOTIC ORDER

OF THE

UNITED SONS OF AMERICA;

WITH THE

FUNDAMENTAL LAWS

OF.

SUBORDINATE CAMPS.

PHILADELPHIA:

1855.



REVISED

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

PATRIOTIC ORDER

OF THE

UNITED SONS OF AMERICA.

PUBLISHED BY

ORDER OF THE R. H. THE NATIONAL CAMP.

PHILADELPHIA .

STEREOTYPED BY S. D. WYETH.

1855.

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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

UNITED SONS OF AMERICA.

WHEREAS—The purest and most enlightened statesman of modern times—he who was justly declared by the general acclaim of mankind, “First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen,”—he who, beyond all other men, was blessed with that far-seeing vision which penetrates the future and reads the destinies of nations—has solemnly warned us, the children of the land by him made free, against the two great poisons threatening the existence of republican institutions and the sacred cause of popular rights—the rage of party spirit and the wiles of foreign influence ; and

Whereas ; The maladministration of European governments, and the designs of the enemies of freedom abroad, coupled with the sinister intentions of domestic demagogues, and the heartless operations of American traders in human freight, are annually inundating our shores with constantly increasing hosts of ignorance, idleness, pauperism, and vice, in a current too rapid for reformation ; threatening alike the interests of the respectable and industrious foreigner and the native of the soil ; and, under the present suicidal policy of our naturalization laws, furnishing material for the elevation of bad citizens to power, and the sapping of those institutions which are the beacon lights of civilization and the high hope of the world ; until, in certain states, the fundamental principles of

the Constitution have been trampled in the dust by foreign feet—in others, the blood of our fellow-citizens, shed by the hands of foreign assassins, has reddened the gutters of our cities, the freedom of the press has been threatened, the right of opinion denounced, the liberty of appeal for the redress of grievances assaulted, civil broil provoked, religion dragged into the arena of politics, the dignity of American laws openly insulted, and the American citizen rendered almost a stranger in his native land:

Now, therefore:—We, the United Sons of America, have hereby associated ourselves as a national brotherhood, solemnly pledged to spread abroad and to maintain above all accidents of time or of defeat, the waxing or the wane of parties, those two great principles of common sense and human nature, that the liberties of a people are never safe unless the sovereign power, judical, legislative, and executive, is vested where it rightfully belongs, in the natives of the soil; and, that a popular government, without the lights of general education, must speedily degenerate into a mere mob of ignorance and folly, the ready tool of faction, unfit for freedom and incapable of self-control.

Moreover; Whereas—It is necessary to the dignity of this Association that its proceedings should be conducted in the spirit of Christian charity and fraternal affection, we do further pledge ourselves duly to consider and endeavour to promote the moral and physical well-being of our fellow-members and their families, in sickness and in health, the helplessness of childhood, and the visitations of sorrow moistening with tears the graves of the departed.

And, for the furtherance of these our objects, we agree to be governed by the following Constitution.

ARTICLE I.

The style and title of this Order shall be, The Patriotic Order of the United Sons of America; and it shall also be known as The O. of the U. S. of A.

ARTICLE II.—*Constituency.*

SEC. 1. This order shall consist exclusively of native born citizens of the United States of America and children of American mothers temporarily sojourning in foreign countries, who have never acknowledged a foreign fealty, together with citizens of the United States, born within the actual territories thereof, or beneath its flag.

SEC. 2. No one shall be admitted as a member of this Order until he shall have solemnly affirmed that he is an avowed adherent to the doctrine that political power should be exclusively vested in persons born as described in Section 1 of this Article, and that he will use all legitimate means practically to secure all political offices in the gift of the American people to such persons only; acting, for this purpose, in strict conformity with the principles, regulations, and advice of the Order, until death, or a legal and regular separation therefrom.

ARTICLE III.—*Objects of the Order.*

The objects of the Order shall be as follows :—

1st. To promote the election and appointment to all offices of honor, trust, or profit, in the gift of the American people or their political agents, of those only who are known to be favourable to the following measures; namely,

1. The exclusive tenure of political office by the

classes of persons specified in Article II. of this instrument.

2. The limitation of immigration, so as to guard the country against the degradation resulting from the unchecked importation of vice, crime, and those absurd and impracticable theories of liberty without law, and socialism without morals, which are so rife in other lands;

3. The defence of the system of Common Schools against all impertinent interference by sectarianism in any form; and,

4. The advocacy of all constitutional measures for the extension of the period of probation before persons of foreign birth hereafter arriving in this country shall be invested with the right of political suffrage, or, for the establishment of the exclusive principle of birth-right suffrage:—

2d. To diffuse among its members and the public generally, a knowledge of the Constitution of the United States and the several individual States, with the true principles of the American government; and to imbue the masses with that warm love of the country, and its institutions, without which it is impossible that this republic can long retain its present proud position in the family of nations:—

3d To encourage, by all legal and practicable means, the extension of popular knowledge and education:—

4th. To extend the blessings of sympathy, kindness, and fraternal assistance among the brethren of the Order and their families; especially when oppressed by disease, or bereaved by death.

ARTICLE IV.—*Permanent Organizations of the Order.*

The Order shall be divided into three classes of

permanent organizations; namely: 1. A NATIONAL CAMP: 2. GENERAL CAMPS; 3. SUBORDINATE CAMPS; whose jurisdictions, respectively, shall cover the entire Nation, the individual States, and the members of each primary or subordinate Association. A member of any Association shall be entitled to a seat, but not to a vote, in all other Associations of the same class, on like terms with its own members.

ARTICLE V.—*The National Camp.*

SEC. 1. *Constituency and Life Membership.*—The National Camp shall consist of all Rt. Hon. Members of the Order, under the original Constitution, all Past Hon. Chiefs, and Past Hon. Degree Masters, and two Hon. Members, to be chosen annually by each General Camp. They shall be entitled to be addressed as Rt. Hon. Brothers, in Camp and when acting officially, and their membership shall continue for life, unless lost by misdemeanor or detachment from the Order. But no one shall be entitled to membership in the said National Camp until he shall have complied with any financial requirements enacted thereby, nor until he shall have assumed the obligations, and passed through the forms of the Blue Degree.

SEC. 2. Hon. Chiefs, and Hon. Degree Masters in actual service shall be entitled to seats, but not to votes, in the National Camp; nor, unless they shall have assumed the Blue Degree under the original Constitution, shall they be present at the initiation of Rt. Hon. Members.

SEC. 3. *Jurisdiction.*—The National Camp shall be the exclusive source of all Laws, Forms and Obligations for the government of the Order, except upon matters connected with the reserved rights of General

and Subordinate Camps, as defined in this Instrument. It shall have power to make and adopt all forms and laws for its own internal government, within the limits prescribed by this instrument. It shall be the judge of the qualifications of candidates for membership in its own body, and may depose any officer, or expel any member, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, they being a quorum, at any Stated Meeting, for neglect of official duty, defalcation in office, grossly immoral or disgraceful conduct, or obstinate insubordination; and a member so expelled, may be deprived of all rights as a Degree Member of the Order, by the votes of a majority of the members present; nor shall he be restored to good standing except on the affirmative votes of two-thirds of the members present, they being a quorum, at a subsequent Stated Meeting. Moreover, such penalty shall not protect the delinquent member from presentment, trial, and expulsion from the Order by his proper subordinate Camp, for the same offence. The National Camp shall likewise have exclusive power to establish and hold jurisdiction over subordinate Camps, in States or Territories unprovided with General Camps.

SEC. 4. *Of Officers, and their Terms of Service.*—The permanent Officers of the National Camp shall be; 1st. The Rt. Hon. Chief, or Executive Head of the Order; 2d. The Rt. Hon. Degree Master, or Judicial Head of the Order; 3d. The Rt. Hon. Secretary, or Head of the Department of the Records; The Rt. Hon. Treasurer, or Head of the Financial Department; The Rt. Hon. Colonel of the Guard, and the Rt. Hon. Major of the Guard; together with such other permanent Officers as the National Camp may see fit to appoint, from time to time. They shall be

elected at a Stated Annual Meeting of the National Camp in July, and their regular term of service shall be four years or one Presidential Term of the Government of the United States, and until their successors are duly installed. Nevertheless, the National Camp, after three month's notice to all General Camps, may, at any time, hold an election for a Permanent Officer or Officers, to supersede the actual incumbent, or incumbents, when the necessities or the obvious good of the Order appears to require such action. It may also fill any vacancy, or vacancies, from death, resignation, impeachment, or disability, at any Stated or Adjourned Meeting.

SEC. 5. *Official Arms and Regalia.*—The Officers of the National Camp shall wear, when on duty or in session, the cross-belt of the Blue Degree, with their appropriate arms and bearings, which shall be as follows: The Rt. Hon. Chief shall be armed with the Gavel, as the instrument of his authority, and his peculiar bearing shall be a golden or gilt star, of five points, with a central white or colourless gem, attached to the cross-belt over the right breast, to which shall be appended two white tassels; and, on the faithful completion of his term of service, he shall be entitled to continue the use of the star and gem, with the honorary rank of Past Rt. Hon. Chief. The arms of the Rt. Hon. Degree Master shall be, an official mace, surmounted by a gilt eagle; and his peculiar bearing shall be a golden or gilt star, with a blue central gem, to be worn like that of the Rt. Hon. Chief, with two blue tassels; and, on the faithful completion of his term of service, he shall be entitled to continue the use of the star and gem, with the rank of Past Rt. Hon. Degree Master. The pe-

culiar bearing of the Rt. Hon. Secretary shall be, a white rosette, upon the cross-belt, in front of the right shoulder; that of the Rt. Hon. Treasurer shall be, a blue rosette, similarly placed; and the Rt. Hon. Colonel and Major of the Guard shall be privileged to wear the side arms and epaulets of their military grade, the former having two, and the latter one, red embroidered star on the front of the cross-belt.

ARTICLE VI.—*General Camps.*

SEC. 1. *Constituency and Life Membership.*—Each General Camp shall consist of all such members of the Order as are entitled to seats in any General Camp, under the original Constitution of the Order, and are legally resident within the jurisdiction of the same; all Past Worthy Chiefs and Past Worthy Degree Masters; and one Worthy Member, to be chosen annually by each Subordinate Camp within said jurisdiction. The members of the General Camps shall be entitled to be addressed as Honorable Brothers, in Camp, and when acting officially; and their membership shall continue for life, unless lost by misdemeanor or detachment from the Order. But no one shall be entitled to such membership until he shall have complied with any financial requirements enacted by the General Camp which he is about to enter, nor until he shall have assumed the obligations, and past through the forms of the White Degree.

SEC. 2. Worthy Chiefs and Worthy Degree Masters in actual service shall be entitled to seats, but not to votes, in General Camp; nor, unless they shall have assumed the White Degree, under the original Constitution, shall they be present at the Initiation of Honorable Members.

SEC. 3. *Titles of General Camps.* — The title of each General Camp shall be, The General Camp of —, of the Patriotic Order of the United Sons of America; the blank being filled with the name of the State or Territory in which it is located.

SEC. 4. *Jurisdiction.*—Each General Camp shall have jurisdiction over all Subordinate Camps in the State or Territory in which it is located; but no General Camp shall be founded in any State or Territory in which there are fewer than three Subordinate Camps in full fellowship. It shall have power to make or adopt all necessary laws for its own internal government, or that of Subordinate Camps within its jurisdiction; provided that such laws be not inconsistent with the general laws of the Order enacted by the National Camp, or with the spirit of this instrument; and, provided, also, that all such laws be reported by the General Camp to the Rt. Hon. Secretary within three months of the time of their enactment. And all such laws shall have full force within said jurisdiction, until altered or annulled by the National Camp. But the National Camp shall have no power to control the finances of a General Camp, except to tax and regulate the same to the extent provided for in this instrument. Nor shall the National Camp hold official intercommunication with Subordinate Camps, except by the reception of petitions, unless through the medium of the proper General Camp, while the said Subordinate Camps are legally subject to the control of a General Camp. Moreover, a General Camp shall be the judge of the qualifications of candidates for membership in its own body, and shall enjoy like rights and powers with the National Camp in relation to the deposition of officers

and the expulsion of members, as defined in Article V., Sec. 3, of this instrument.

SEC. 5. *Of Officers and their terms of service.*—The permanent officers of a General Camp shall be, 1st. The Hon. Chief; 2d. The Hon. Degree Master; 3d. The Hon. Secretary; 4th. The Hon. Treasurer; 5th. The Hon. Captain of the Guard; and 6th. The Hon. Lieutenant of the Guard; together with such other permanent officers as the General Camp may deem necessary to carry out the purposes of the Order—they being appointed with the approval of the National Camp. They shall be elected at the stated meeting in January of each year, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable, and shall serve for one year thereafter, and until their successors are duly installed, unless previously removed by death, change of residence, or legal process, under the provisions of this instrument. And the powers of a General Camp to supersede any officer thereof, and fill official vacancies, shall be of like character and extent with those of the National Camp, as stated in the fourth section of the fifth Article of this instrument.

SEC. 6. *Official Arms and Regalia.*—The officers of General Camps shall wear, when on duty or in session, the cross-belt of the White Degree, with their appropriate arms and bearings, as follows:—*Arms* of the Hon. Chief; the Gavel, as an instrument of authority. *Bearings*; a silver star of five points, with a central white or colourless gem, attached to the cross-belt over the right breast, with two white tassels; and, on having faithfully completed a regular term of service, the Hon. Chief may retain the star and gem, with the honorary title of Past Hon. Chief. *Arms* of the Hon. Degree Master; the mace, surmounted by a

white or gilt star, as an instrument of authority. *Bearings*; a silver star of five points with a blue central gem, to be worn over the right breast, with two blue tassels; and on having completed his regular term of service with faithfulness, the Hon. Degree Master may retain the star and gem, with the honorary rank of Past Hon. Degree Master. The *bearings* of the Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, and Hon. Officers of the Guard shall be similar to those of Officers of the same departments in the National Camp, as defined in the fifth section of the fifth Article of this instrument.

SEC. 7. *Of Meetings*.—Each General Camp shall hold stated meetings, at such places as it may from time to time determine, said places being within the limits of its proper jurisdiction; and at least four of such meetings shall be called quarterly, in the months of January, April, July, and October, in each year.

SEC. 8. *Annual Reports*.—Each General Camp shall transmit, by the hands of the Installing Officer, whose receipt shall be a sufficient voucher for the same, an Annual Report of the Officers Elect of the General Camp, the number of Subordinate Camps within its jurisdiction, and their location, the amount of the enrolled membership in each Camp, the number of Red Degree members initiated during the term, and a statement of all revenues received by the General Camp, to the first of January next preceding, specifying the amount legally subject to taxation; together with the amount of *per centage* due the National Camp thereon, in legal coin of the United States.

SEC. 9. *Duties of Officers*.—The duties of all permanent officers of General Camps named in this instrument shall be determined by the General Laws of

the Order, they being consistent with the requirements of this instrument.

ARTICLE VII.—*Subordinate Camps.*

SEC. 1. *Constituency.*—Subordinate Camps shall consist of all the members of the Order whose names are regularly subscribed to the roll of a duly chartered primary body of the Order, and who are actually and legally in full fellowship therewith.

SEC. 2. *Title.*—Each Subordinate Camp shall be chartered and known as —— Camp No. — of the Patriotic Order of the United Sons of America: the first blank being filled with the name of the State or Territory in which it is located, and the second, with the number representing its rank in the series of charters granted for Subordinate Camps within said State or Territory.

SEC. 3. *Powers and Jurisdiction.*—The powers of a Subordinate Camp shall extend to all acts and measures necessary for, or incident to the accomplishment of the objects of the Order, except such as may be interdicted by the Constitution and General Laws of the Order, those legally enacted by the proper General Camp, or those of the Subordinate Camp itself. It shall have power to impeach any officer or member, for neglect of official duty, defalcation in office, grossly immoral or disgraceful conduct, or obstinate insubordination, on the written presentment of any two members of the Order in full fellowship;—it may punish, degrade, or expel the delinquent, in the manner prescribed in the thirteenth Article of this instrument; and it may reinstate a member thus expelled, in the manner prescribed in said Article. But no member of the White or Blue Degree, who may be thus ex-

pelled and reinstated shall be capable of election as Worthy Chief or Degree Master, or to the General Camp, unless by dispensation specially granted by that body. Nevertheless, an appeal shall lie from the decision of a Subordinate Camp, to its proper General Camp, in all cases of expulsion; and said General Camp may direct the reinstatement of the appellant, or confirm the decree of expulsion, by special dispensation.

SEC. 4. *Of Elective Officers and their terms of service.*—The Elective Officers of a Subordinate Camp shall be, 1st. A Worthy Chief; 2d. An Assistant Chief; 3d. A Proclaimer; 4th. An Ensign of the Guard; 5th. A Sergeant of the Guard; who shall be elected, by ballot, semi-annually, in the months of January and July, and whose terms of service shall be six months, and until their successors are duly installed; 6th. A Worthy Degree Master; 7th. A Recording Secretary; 8th. A Treasurer; 9th. A Financial Secretary, who shall be elected annually in the month of January, and whose term of service shall be one year, and until their successors are duly installed. No one shall be eligible to any elective office, except the Officers of the Guard, until he shall have assumed the Red Degree; but, in the absence of the proper officer, a member in general may be appointed by the Camp to fill his place, *pro tempore*, except in the case of the Worthy Degree Chief, the Worthy Degree Master, or the Treasurer; whose duties shall be imposed exclusively on members who have taken the Red Degree.

SEC. 5. *Of Officers by Appointment.*—When a Subordinate Camp is sufficiently numerous, the Worthy Chief shall appoint the following additional officers,

whose terms of service shall correspond with that of the appointing officer. 1st. An Assistant Proclaimer; 2d. Two Guards, and Two Sentinels of the Worthy Chief; 3d. Two Guards, and Two Sentinels of the Assistant Chief. And the duties of these officers shall be determined by the Secret Forms and Appropriate Cards of duty provided for the purpose.

SEC. 6. *Of Trustees.*—Each Subordinate Camp may appoint annually, by ballot, three of its members, of the Red Degree, to act as Trustees, to hold and manage such property as may be legally entrusted to their care by the Camp, for the purposes thereby designated; and they shall be empowered to act under the direction of the Camp, until their successors are duly installed.

SEC. 7. *Of Official Vacancies.*—A Subordinate Camp shall have power, at any time, to fill all vacancies occurring in any official post; and the officer who shall complete, in good faith, the unexpired term of service of one who has been, in any manner, removed, shall enjoy all rights and privileges resulting from the completion of an entire term.

SEC. 8. *Official Arms and Regalia.*—The officers of Subordinate Camps, when on duty or in session, shall wear the cross-belt of the Red Degree, with their appropriate arms and bearings, which are as follows; 1st. The Worthy Chief; the gavel, as an instrument of authority, and a white rosette with two white tassels on the cross-belt, near the right shoulder; 2d. The Assistant Chief; the gavel, and the red rosette with two white tassels; 3d. The Worthy Degree Master; a blue rosette with blue tassels, and a mace surmounted by a carved left hand, with the index finger extended. Deputies of Degree Masters shall

carry a blue wand, and those of a Worthy Chief, a white wand. The bearing of the Recording Secretary shall be a black embroidered pen on the cross-belt, in front of the right breast; that of the Financial Secretary, a black embroidered pen and key; that of the Treasurer, the key only; that of the Proclaimer, a trumpet; all similarly worked and placed. The *Arms* of the Proclaimers shall be spears; those of the Sentinels, spears or muskets; those of Right Guards, shall be national flags, and that of the Ensign of the Guard, a musket, or national flag; and all Officers of the Guard, with the Proclaimer, may wear side arms, if so directed by the Camp. The Ensign of the Guard shall wear two black stars, and the Sergeant of the Guard one black star, on the cross-belt, before the right breast.

SEC. 9. *Official Stations.*—The Worthy Chief and the Assistant Chief shall be stationed at opposite ends of the Cantonment;—the Worthy Degree Master, in the middle of the side of the Cantonment, on the left of the Worthy Chief;—a more dignified station, opposite the Worthy Degree Master, shall be reserved for certain secret purposes, to be filled when the private work of the Order demands it. The Recording Secretary takes station on the Right, and the Financial Officers on the Left of the Worthy Chief. The Post of the Proclaimer is in front of the Worthy Degree Master; those of the Guards are at the right and left elbows of the appropriate Chiefs; that of the Assistant Proclaimer, in front of the reserved station of dignity. The Ensign of the Guard takes post at the inner portal, and the Sergeant of the Guard at the outer portal of the Cantonment.

SEC. 10. *Of Meetings.*—Each Subordinate Camp

shall hold stated meetings, at its regular Cantonment, at least once in each month, and may continue the same by adjournment from time to time. It may also hold special meetings on the call of the Worthy Chief and Recording Secretary, or that of the Worthy Degree Master, countersigned by either the Worthy Chief or the Recording Secretary, the nature of the business being stated in the call.

SEC. 11. *Of Reports.*—Each Subordinate Camp shall transmit, by the hands of the Installing Officer, to its proper General Camp. 1st. A semi-annual statement of the number initiated, deceased, expelled, or removed from its membership during the semi-annual period just preceeding Instalment, with the names, residences and crimes of all persons expelled for dishonorable conduct, (non payment of dues not included); also, the number of its enrolled members, and the names of all candidates for initiation who have been rejected by the negative voices of one-third the members present at the time of balloting; and the names and address of the Officers Elect: 2d. A statement of the condition of its several funds and trusts; with an account of the monies received, during the preceeding term of six months, for the regular dues of members, and initiatory fees; and this account shall be accompanied by the payment of the tax of *five per cent* upon the whole amount thereof, in lawful coin of the United States, due the General Camp; for the payment of which, the receipt of the Installing Officer shall be a sufficient voucher. These Reports shall be presented to the Installing Officer, duly certified under the seal of the Camp; and in case they are neglected or refused, or if the *per centage* be retained, that officer shall refuse to instal the Officers Elect

of the Camp, and the Camp shall remain liable to suspension or forfeiture of charter, or his presentment of said Camp before the General Camp, for insubordination.

ARTICLE VIII.—*Finance of the Order.*

SEC. 1. *Finance of Subordinate Camps.*—The ordinary revenue of Subordinate Camps shall be derived from an initiatory fee of not less than one dollar, and a contributory fee of not less than three cents per week, to be styled the weekly dues, payable by each member at each stated meeting: and *five per cent* upon all monies received by the Camp from these sources shall be paid in legal coin of the United States, semi-annually, to the proper General Camp, by the hands of the Installing Officer, prior to the installation of the Officers Elect, at the commencement of each regular term. The remainder shall be devoted to the necessary expenses of the Camps, and the political purposes of the Order: Provided always, that any excess of the weekly dues above three cents per week, or any part thereof, may be appropriated as a separate beneficial fund for the mutual insurance of the health of the living, and the payment of the funeral expenses of members or their wives upon their decease. Moreover, a Subordinate Camp may remit the payment of so much of the weekly dues as is thus appropriated, to all members who may voluntarily relinquish all claim to the benefits derivable from the said Beneficial Fund. Subordinate Camps shall also have power to receive, hold, invest, and apply, through appropriate Trustees, who shall give such security for the faithful performance of their trust as may be approved by the proper General Camps, any funds raised by the voluntary contributions, donations, or bequests of its own members, for

the furtherance, within its own jurisdiction, of any specific political, educational, or charitable purposes of the Order, in a manner consistent with the provisions of the Constitution and laws of said Order, and such funds shall not be liable to taxation by superior bodies.

SEC. 2. *Finance of General Camps.*—The ordinary revenue of each General Camp shall be, and consist of *five per cent* upon all initiation fees and weekly dues received by Subordinate Camps founded by it, and lying within its jurisdiction, the Charter fees of all Subordinate Camps founded by it, and within its jurisdiction, and such initiatory fee, not exceeding five dollars, with such annual contribution or quarterly dues of its own members, as the said General Camp may voluntarily establish;—*ten per cent* of which shall be paid annually, to the National Camp, by the hands of the Installing Officer, whose receipt shall be a sufficient voucher for the payment of the same. Moreover, each General Camp shall have power to receive, hold, invest and apply, through appropriate Trustees, who shall give such security for the faithful performance of their trust as shall be approved by the National camp, any funds raised by the voluntary contributions, donations, or bequests of its own members, or others, for the furtherance, within its own jurisdiction, of any specific educational or charitable purposes of the Order, consistently with the provisions of the Constitution and Laws of the Order:—and such funds shall not be liable to taxation by the National Camp.

SEC. 4. *Finance of the National Camp.*—The ordinary revenue of the National Camp shall consist of *ten per cent* upon all initiatory fees and dues of Hon. Members, all revenues accruing from the taxation of Subordinate Camps, and all Charter fees received by the several General Camps; together with the sum

total of all Charter fees of General or Subordinate Camps founded directly by authority of the National Camp, and all revenue derived from the ordinary *five per cent* tax on the funds of such Subordinate Camps as are located in States or Territories unprovided with General Camps actually in good fellowship with the Order;—Also, the amount of such initiatory fee, not exceeding ten dollars, and such annual contribution or dues of its own members as the said National Camp may voluntarily establish;—Also, the sum of one dollar for each member of the Order initiated into the Red Degree. Moreover; The National Camp shall have power to receive, hold, invest, and apply, through appropriate Trustees who shall give satisfactory security for the faithful performance of their trust, any funds raised by voluntary contribution, donation, endowment or bequest, from members of the Order, or others, for the furtherance of any specific educational purpose, of a National character; provided, that the said purpose, and the management of said funds be conducted in a manner consistent with the principles and objects of the Order, and the requirements of the Constitution and Laws.

SEC. 5. *Extent and Limits of Taxation.*—Except to the extent specified in this Article, no Permanent Organization of this Order shall be taxed without its own consent.

ARTICLE IX.—*Political Duty of the Order and its Members.*

SEC. 1. *Political Nominations.*—No member or Organization of this Order shall be permitted to pervert the influence of the Order with a view to embarrass the free choice of the people in their primary assemblages, in selecting nominees for political office, or to obstruct the free exercise of the right of suffrage

by every citizen legally entitled thereto, or to give a sectarian character to the action of the Order; and the penalty for any such attempt shall be expulsion from membership in the case of individual transgression, or forfeiture of charter in case of a breach of this rule by any Camp or General Camp. But nothing in this Section shall be so construed as to prevent the free discussion of the political and civil character of all persons whose names may be or may become prominent before the people, at the meetings of the various Permanent Organizations of the Order.

SEC. 2 *Of Primary Assemblages and Voting.*—It shall be the duty of the members of the Order, as citizens, to encourage and take part in all primary assemblages of those American citizens who maintain the political measures detailed in the Third Article of this instrument, and to support by their votes and influence no political candidate who is not openly known to this Order as an advocate of those measures, and as one who is willing to be advertized as such, and when in office, to aid in their establishment and practical enforcement. No member shall be compelled, by any secret or other obligation of the Order, to vote for any candidate against the dictates of his conscience; but, in declining to vote for any candidate on such grounds, no member shall be at liberty to support the claims of any political candidate who is identified with a party opposed to the aforesaid measures; and if the candidate placed on the ticket of any political party so opposed, shall not be publicly known as a practical advocate of said measures, the public platform of said party to the contrary notwithstanding, the said candidate shall be held to be identified with said party: And the penalty for a breach of this rule shall be, expulsion from the Order.

SEC. 3. *Of Political Nominees.*—If any member of this Order shall consent to the use of his name as the candidate of any primary assemblage of the people, and shall withdraw his name from before the people at any time within six months of the time of election, and for any reason or cause not deemed satisfactory to the General or National Camp to which his Subordinate Camp owes fealty, the said unfaithful candidate shall be expelled from the Order.

SEC. 4. *Right of Resignation for Political Reasons.*—The right of resignation from the Order shall not be disputed; but any such resignation by a political voter within three months next preceding the time of election, shall be deemed dishonorable, unless explained in a manner satisfactory to the proper General or National Camp. And special notice of all such dishonorable resignations shall be freely circulated through the Order; the veil of secrecy being removed therefrom.

ARTICLE X.—*Chartering New Organizations.*

SEC. 1. *General Camps.*—On the written application of any nine or more brothers of the Red Degree, in good standing, and resident in any State or Territory not provided with a General Camp, the said nine or more applicants representing, by one or more of their number, at least two-thirds of the Subordinate Camps in good standing located within the said State or Territory, the said Subordinate Camps being not less than three in number, the National Camp, on the reception of ten dollars as a Charter fee, may grant them a Charter, to be and act as the General Camp of the said State or Territory, in the manner prescribed by the Laws of the Order regulating the appointment and action of Commissioners for the foundation of new Permanent Organizations thereof.

SEC. 2. *Subordinate Camps*.—On the written application of any thirteen or more citizens by birth-right, being members of the Order, or eligible as such under this Constitution, and who, if already members, are clear of all legal and honorable claims of their respective Subordinate Camps, there being at least six who shall be, or shall certify their readiness to become brothers of the Red Degree; provided always, that ten of the said applicants be resident within a circle of five miles radius; the General Camp, within whose jurisdiction the said ten applicants reside, or, if there be no such General Camp, then the National Camp may, on the reception of a Charter fee of five dollars, grant a Charter to the said applicants to be and act as a Subordinate Camp of the Patriotic Order of the United Sons of America, under jurisdiction of the chartering power, in the manner prescribed by the Laws of the Order regulating the appointment and action of Commissioners for the foundation of Permanent Organizations thereof.

ARTICLE XI.—*Decadency of Organizations*.

SEC. 1. *General Camps*.—If, from the insubordination of Subordinate Camps, or any other cause, the meetings of any General Camp of the Order should be so far discontinued that the Annual Reports and percentage due the National Camp be delayed for more than six months after written demand therefor, from the Rt. Hon. Secretary, the said General Camp may be declared in a state of decadency by the National Camp, the Charter of the General Camp shall become void, and the Subordinate Camps within its jurisdiction shall come under the exclusive jurisdiction of the National Camp. Moreover, all property, rights, funds and trusts, belonging to the said General

Camp, in whatsoever hands they may be, shall become vested in the National Camp, to be applied, prosecuted, and conducted as nearly as may be for their original purposes and the good of the Order, agreeably to the Constitution thereof and the Laws for the government of Commissions and Commissioners of Suspension, Annulment and Decadency.

SEC. 2. *Subordinate Camps.*—If any Subordinate Camp should so far decline as to number fewer than ten members, or fewer than five brothers of the Red Degree; or if it fail to hold its constitutional stated meetings for three consecutive months; or if it fail to forward by the hands of the Installing Officer, according to law, or if he be negligent of duty, then, through the proper Recording Officer, the regular semi-annual Reports and *per centage*, for three months after formal demand of the proper authority; then the Charter of the said Subordinate Camp may be declared void, and all property, rights, funds and trusts belonging thereto, shall become vested in that superior Permanent Organization of the Order to which it is immediately subordinate, and the said property, rights, funds and trusts, in whatsoever hands they may be, shall be applied, prosecuted and conducted as nearly as may be in accordance with their original purpose, agreeably to the Constitution and the Laws of the Order, for the government of Commissioners of Suspension, Annulment and Decadency.

ARTICLE XII.—*Suspension and Annulment.*

SEC. 1. *Summary Suspension and Annulment.*—On presentment by an Installing Officer, for a refusal to forward the proper periodical Reports and *per centages*, any Subordinate Organization of this Order may be declared in a state of Suspension, by the Perma-

ment Organization to which it is immediately subordinate; and if the contumacious conduct of the Subordinate be continued for three months after formal demand of the superior body, the Charter of the subordinate may be annulled, by the said superior, at its next or any subsequent stated, special or adjourned meeting.

SEC. 2. *Trials for faults leading to suspension and annulment.*—Any Subordinate Permanent Organization of this Order may be presented before its immediate superior, by written accusation of any two brothers of the proper Degree, for any gross breach of the requirements of the Constitution or laws of the Order; and if the accusation be seconded by a majority of the members present (they being a quorum), the case shall be ordered for trial, at a special meeting, of which not less than two month's notice shall be given to the accused organization; and it shall be optional with the superior whether the subordinate shall remain in a state of suspension pending the trial, or not. On trial, the proper Degree Master of the superior body shall take the place of the Executive Chief, as Judge of the Laws of the Order, and the accused may be heard by counsel chosen from among the brotherhood; but no member of the accused organization shall be permitted to speak or vote during the trial, unless called on by the Court, as counsel or witness. The admission of testimony, oral or written, from others than members of the Order, shall be optional with the Court; and an appeal on exceptions on points of law, may lay, by permission of the Court, to the Rt. Hon. Degree Master, and Past Hon. Degree Masters in Bank, any two of those high judicial officers sitting thereon, whose decrees shall be final, unless constitutionally reversed by the National

Camp, at a regular Annual Meeting. The sentence of the superior organization may be acquittal, reprimand by the proper Degree Master, or annulment of Charter, conditional or unconditional.

SEC. 3. *Proceedings and execution in cases of suspension and annulment.*—The National Camp may pass a General Law for proceedings and execution during suspensions and after sentence of annulment; but, on the rendition of a sentence of annulment, all property, rights, funds and trusts shall become vested in the superior organization, and shall be taken, applied, prosecuted and conducted, as in cases of Decadency.

ARTICLE XIII.—*Trials, Expulsions and Reinstatement of Members.*

SEC. 1. *Presentments by Fellow-Members.*—Any member of the Order or either of its Permanent Organizations may be presented before his proper Subordinate Camp, at any Stated Meeting, by any two members thereof, for breach of his obligations or of the Constitution or Laws of the Order, or for any misdemeanour mentioned in this instrument; and if the accusation be seconded by three other members, he may be put upon his trial, by a vote of a majority of the members present. But, if the accused be not himself present, he shall be furnished with a written copy of the accusation, and reasonable notice shall be given him of the time of trial, and he shall be heard in his own defence. The proper Degree Master shall preside during the trial, and the verdict shall be acquittal, reprimand, exclusion from the meetings of the body for a limited time, or expulsion from the Order by his Subordinate Camp; but the punishment of the last named character shall not be inflicted except

for gross breach of obligations, delinquency in the management of trust-funds, or grossly immoral or dishonest conduct. The affirmative votes of two-thirds of the members present, (being a quorum), shall be necessary to a verdict.

SEC. 2. Violent and outrageous insubordination may be punished by immediate expulsion from membership in the Camp or the Order, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

SEC. 3. *Degradation and Expulsion by Superior Bodies.*—When a Subordinate Camp shall receive due notice, under seal of the General Camp, that either of its members has been expelled from membership in a Superior Body, and deprived of his rights as a Degree Member, according to the provisions of the Third Section of the Fifth Article of this instrument, the Worthy Degree Master of the said Subordinate Camp, shall strike the name of the said member from the roll of Degree Membership, entering thereon this footnote, with proper astericks, “——— degraded by order of G. C.” with the date of the reception of said notice. Moreover; if said notice state that the said delinquent member has been degraded for such gross breach of his obligations or such disgraceful conduct, civil or political, as renders him unworthy of membership in the Order, then the Worthy Chief shall order the Recording Secretary to strike the name of the said delinquent from the roll of membership in the Order, and shall direct the Financial Secretary to close his accounts with the Subordinate Camp, by balancing them, if necessary, by a credit for disorderly conduct, to any amount which may be due by said delinquent; and if any balance be due him by the Camp, an order on the the Treasurer for the amount

shall be immediately forwarded to him by the Recording Secretary.

SEC. 4. *Reinstatements.*—A member degraded or expelled from the Order, shall not be reinstated except by special dispensation from the Permanent Organization in which action in the case originally commenced; and a member expelled for malversion of funds, or the betrayal of the rights of the people, by retreating from the position of a political candidate, voluntarily assumed, within six months of the time of election and without reasons satisfactory to the proper General Camp, shall never be reinstated, except by disproof of the charge, upon clear after evidence before the proper General or the National Camp.

SEC. 5. *Appeals from sentence of degradation or expulsion.*—Any degraded or expelled member may appeal to the proper General, or to the National Camp, for a revision of sentence, at any time within one year after the date thereof; and the said General or National Camp may take such action on the appeal as the laws and the judgment of the body will warrant.

ARTICLE XIV.—*Election to Membership in the Order.*

The election of members of the Order shall be subject to the following rules: 1st. No one shall be admitted to membership in the Order, except by becoming a charter-member of some Subordinate Camp, or by regular election thereby. Applications for membership may be made in writing, to the Recording Secretary of any Subordinate Camp within the county in which the applicants reside, and propositions for membership may be made by any member of the Order, at any Stated Meeting of a Subordinate Camp. No reply shall be made to any such written application, unless the applicant be duly elected. The elec-

tion shall be by ballot, under supervision of the Worthy Degree Master, and the result announced, in open Camp, by the Worthy Chief. No candidate shall be ballotted for, until after the report of a committee of two members appointed by the Worthy Chief, and a call for objections by the members. Three negatives shall exclude a member and shall render him ineligible to any Camp within the county, unless by unanimous consent of the Camp by which he has been rejected, for the term of one year. The negative votes of one-third of the members present, shall render a candidate perpetually ineligible, except by special dispensation from the proper General Camp. Special propositions for membership on behalf of persons residing in States or Counties unprovided with Subordinate Camps, may be made by the Rt. Hon. or the proper Hon. Chiefs or Degree Masters; but the Subordinate Camps alone shall determine the result.

ARTICLE XV.—*Passwords and Countersigns.*

The semi-annual passwords and countersigns of Subordinate Camps shall emanate from the Rt. Hon. Degree Master, who shall transmit them, in the Great Cypher of the Order, through the Rt. Hon. Chief, and Secretary, to the several Hon. Degree Masters, at least three months before they are required for use. By the Hon. Degree Masters, they shall be forwarded, in the Numerical Cypher of the Order, through the several Hon. Chiefs and their Installing Deputies, to the Worthy Degree Masters on their installation. The annual passwords and countersigns of General Camps shall emanate from the same authority, and shall be transmitted in like manner, to the Hon. Degree Masters, through the Rt. Hon. Chief, and his Installing Deputies, at the time of Installa-

tion. And those of the National Camp shall be established by the Rt. Hon. Degree Master, and shall be by him communicated to the Rt. Hon. Chief, verbally and privately, at the time of taking their official oath or affirmation, and may be changed at such times as the laws of the National Camp may prescribe. Moreover; any password and countersign may be annulled and superseded, by order of the Rt. Hon. Chief, in case of necessity from treachery or rebellion in the Order.

ARTICLE XVI.—*Authoritative Documents, &c.*

All secret work, laws, forms, seals, and authoritative documents of binding force throughout the Order, whether written or printed, shall be furnished to the proper Permanent Bodies, at the expense of the parties requiring the same: and all Constitutional documents, General Laws, Secret Forms, Cards of Duty, and Seals of Permanent Organizations or Departments, shall emanate from the National Camp or the Degree Department thereof.

ARTICLE XVII.—*Seals, Mottoes, &c.*

Each Permanent Organization shall be provided with a Seal, to be supplied by the National Degree Department, and held by the Degree Master of said Organization, which shall have such private marks thereon as shall describe the jurisdiction of the said Organization. The General Motto of the Order shall be "God and our Native Land:—" That of a Subordinate Camp, "*Usque ad Mortem*," (Even until death.) That of a General Camp, "*Lente, Caute, Firme*;" (Slowly, cautiously and firmly). That of the National Camp, the initial letters of the words, *Senatus Populiq; Americanae*, (The Senate and People of America.)

The National Camp may also establish, by law, suitable seals and mottoes for the several Departments.

ARTICLE XVIII.—*Supply of the Constitution.*

This Constitution shall be printed and published; and not less than two copies shall be furnished and re-supplied when required, to each organized body of the Order, to be placed, during sessions, on the desks of the Executive and Judicial Chiefs thereof.

ARTICLE XIX.—*Of Amendments.*

No Addition, Alteration or Amendment shall be effected in this instrument unless with the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present at a special meeting of the National Camp.



This Constitution, by resolution of the R. H. the National Camp of the U. S. of A., goes into operation on the seventh day of May, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Five.

FUNDAMENTAL LAW

OF SUBORDINATE CAMPS OF THE

PATRIOTIC ORDER OF THE UNITED SONS OF AMERICA.

I.—CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS.

The provisions of the Constitution of the Order shall be, in all things pertinent, a part of Fundamental Law of Subordinate Camps, regulating the following subjects:

1. *The Objects of the Order and its Subordinate Camps.*—These are regulated by the spirit of the preamble, and the letter of the third article of the constitution. (C. of O. p. 5.)

2. *Constituency of the Order and of Subordinate Camps.*—This is regulated by Article 2, (C. of O. p. 5,) and Article 7, Section 1. (C. of O. p. 14.)*

3. *Titles of Subordinate Camps.*—These are regulated by Article 7, Section 2. (C. of O. p. 14.)

4. *Powers and Jurisdiction.*—These are regulated by Article 7, Section 3. (C. of O. p. 14.)

5. *Elective Officers and their Terms of Service.*—These are regulated by Article 7, Section 4. (C. of O. p. 15.)

6. *Officers by Appointment.*—These are regulated by Article 7, Section 5. (C. of O. p. 15.)

7. *Trustees.*—These are regulated by Article 7, Section 6. (C. of O. p. 16.)

8. *Official Vacancies.*—These are regulated by Article 7, Section 7. (C. of O. p. 16.)

9. *Official Arms and Regalia.*—These are regulated by Article 7, Section 8. (C. of O. p. 16.)

* CONSTITUENCY. By a resolution of the R. H. The National Camp, passed and ordered to be engrossed as a law of the Order, March 8th, 1847: "All persons born of parents who are citizens of the United States, within a foreign consulate, or born on the high seas, under the American flag; which persons never acquire a foreign residence; and all persons born abroad, of parents who are citizens of the United States, temporarily absent from the country, without intending permanent residence abroad: Provided, the said persons, so born, never assume a foreign fealty, are clearly eligible as United Sons of America."

10. *Official Stations*.—These are determined by Article 7, Section 9. (C. of O. p. 17.)

11. *Official Rights to Seats in General Camp*.—These are regulated by Article 6, Section 2. (C. of O. p. 10.)

12. *Rights and Restrictions of Hon. Brotherhood by Election or Succession*.—These are regulated by Article 6, Section 1; (C. of O. p. 10,) and Article 7, Section 3. (C. of O. p. 14.)

13. *Impeachment, &c. of Officers*.—This is regulated by Article 7, Section 3, (C. of O. p. 14,) and Art. 13. (C. of O. p. 27.)

14. *Meetings*.—These are mainly regulated by Article 7, Section 10. (C. of O. p. 17.)

15. *Semi-annual Reports*.—These are mainly regulated by Article 7, Section 11. (C. of O. p. 18.)

16. *Finance, Initiatory, Fees, and Dues*.—These are mainly regulated by Article 8, Section 1. (C. of O. p. 19.)

17. *Special Trusts and Funds*.—These are subject to the provisions of Article 8, Section 1. (C. of O. p. 19.)

18. *Taxation and its Limit*.—These are regulated by Article 8, Sections 1 and 5. (C. of O. pp. 19 and 21.)

19. *Political Duties of the Order and its Members*.—These are regulated by Article 9. (C. of O. p. 21.)

20. *Charters and Subordination of Camps*.—These are regulated by Article 10, Section 2, and Article 11, Section 1. (C. of O. p. 24.)

21. *Decadency of Subordinate Camps*.—This is regulated by Article 11, Section 2. (C. of O. p. 25.)

22. *Suspensions and Annulments of Charters*.—These are regulated by Article 12. (C. of O. p. 25.)

23. *Trials, Expulsions, and Reinstatements of Members*.—These are regulated by Article 13. (C. of O. p. 27.)

24. *Election to Membership in the Order*.—This is partly regulated by Article 14. (C. of O. p. 29.)

25. *Pass-words*.—The law of Pass-words is chiefly laid down in Article 15. (C. of O. p. 30.)

26. *Supply of Documents, Seals, and other Secret Work*.—This is regulated by Articles 16, 17, and 18. (C. of O. pp. 31 and 32.)

II.—ELECTION, AND APPOINTMENT, OF OFFICERS.

1. The Semi-annual Officers of this Camp shall be elected, by ballot, at the first Stated Meetings in January and July of each year, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable.

2. The Annual Officers shall be elected, by ballot, at the first Stated Meeting in January of each year, or as soon thereafter as may be. No member shall vote who is three months in arrears on the books of the Recording Secretary—by whom the roll of legal voters shall be called; and a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to an election.

3. The regular appointed Officers shall be appointed by the Worthy Chief, on the conclusion of the installation ceremonies of the Camp.

4. After this Camp shall have been in action one year, no member shall be eligible as A. C., until he shall have served one term as P.; nor shall any one be eligible as W. C., until he shall have served one term as D. M. or A. C.

5. All members who have served one term as D. M. or W. C., of any Camp, being entitled to the rank of P. W., shall also be entitled to represent the Dignity of the Order, in the appropriate Chair, when necessary; taking precedence in the order of the date of their service; but, during the first year, that Chair may be filled by appointment during initiation:—Moreover, the Installing Officer shall claim that Chair, as well as the Chair of the W. C., when requisite to his duty; and the honorable D. M., or Deputy, when conferring the Red Degree, in Camp, shall likewise assume it.

6. The Camp shall have power to appoint a Curator, and such other assistant Officers as it may deem necessary, and to lay down rules for the government of the same.

III.—DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. *Duty of the Worthy Chief.*—It shall be the duty of the Worthy Chief to preside, and preserve and enforce order during the meetings, to open and close the Camp in due form, and to fill all requisite official stations by special appointments during the absence of the proper incumbents. He shall clearly an-

nounce all questions duly moved and seconded, and shall inquire if the Camp is ready for the question before putting the same; and he shall inspect and declare the result of all ballotings and other votes.

He shall direct the Recording Secretary to call special meetings of the Camp, on the requisition of nine members in good standing, or on that of the General Camp of the State.

He shall approve all bills when regularly passed by the Camp, and draw orders upon the Treasurer for all money appropriated thereby.

He shall nominate all committees, unless otherwise instructed by special resolution, taking the sense of the Camp on each nomination.

He shall not argue, while in place, the merits of any question before the Camp, unless upon a point of order. On leaving the Chair, he shall call upon some other Degree member, who is not officially engaged, to preside during his absence therefrom; and he shall execute such other duties, during the intervals between the sessions of the Camp, as may be rendered incumbent upon him by the laws of the Order, and the resolutions of the Camp.

When in doubt on points of law, he may require the decision of the D. M.; and during installation, he shall resign his Chair and functions to the Installing Officer, on demand.

2. *Duty of the Assistant Chief.*—The A. C. shall perform the duties imposed upon him by the established rules and customs of the Order, and shall preside over the meetings of the Camp, until the entry of the W. C., when the latter officer is absent at the opening of the session.

3. *Duty of the Degree Master.*—The Degree Master shall preserve a roll of all members elected to the Red Degree, with the date of their initiation, or refusal to comply with the obligations of Red Degree members; noting also, all deaths, degradations and expulsions of Degree members, making semi-annual Reports of the same to the Camp, at the stated meetings next preceding the regular times of election, in January and July.

He shall act as Master of Ceremonies and Forms of the Camp, and when any important error or omission occurs therein

such security for the faithful performance of his duties as the Camp or the laws of the Order may require.

6. *Duty of the Financial Secretary.*—The F. S. shall keep just and accurate accounts between the Camp and its members; receive all funds due the Camp, and pay the same over to the T., immediately, taking his receipt therefor in a book kept for that purpose. At the stated meeting next preceding each semi-annual Election, he shall render a full and detailed report of the amounts received or owing for initiation fees, dues, fines, etc.; also, the amounts upon the books against members; which gross amounts shall be entered upon the journal. He shall also perform such other duties as the Camp may require, and shall surrender to the Installing Officer, at each semi-annual Installation, all property of his department.

7. *Duty of the Proclaimer.*—The Proclaimer shall perform the several duties defined in the cards of official duty, and return those cards to the D. M., at the close of each class of duties.

He shall also act as the first deputy of the D. M. at all funerals and other processions.

8. *Duties of Appointed Officers.*—The Inner and Outer Pickets, the Assistant Proclaimer, Guards and Sentinels, shall perform the duties prescribed in their cards of official duty, under the direction of the W. C., and the supervision of the D. M., and shall return the said cards to the latter officer before the close of each session.

9. *Fines for Neglect of Official Duty.*—If an Officer be absent from a regular meeting of the Camp, and has not been previously excused from attendance, his name shall be noticed by the R. S., at the request of the Worthy Chief, and shall be forwarded to the F. S., who shall affix to each name such fine as may be prescribed by the regulations of the Camp. If, before the next quarterly report of the Treasurer, such delinquencies be explained in writing, and in a manner satisfactory to the Camp, as certified by the endorsement of the R. S. upon the written explanation, the F. S. shall erase the fines so explained, on the reception of the requisite certificate.

IV.—ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS.

To carry out the provisions of Article 14 of the Constitution of the Order, (p. 29) the following course shall be pursued in the proposition, balloting for, and admission of members.

1.—*Each proposition* must be accompanied with a statement of the age, residence and occupation of the candidate; which statement, together with the names of the proposers, must be recorded in a book kept for the purpose; a special committee of two members shall be appointed upon each candidate, who shall report at the next stated meeting, upon his moral standing and his views of the political principles of the Order. The tenor of the said report shall also be entered upon the book kept as aforesaid, and shall be signed by the committee. When this report is read in Camp, any member shall be at liberty to canvass the merits of the candidate.

2.—*If the report of the committee on a candidate* be favorable, he shall be balloted for with ball ballots, the ballot box being placed on the table in front of the W. C., under the care of the D. M., and when all members who choose have voted, the D. M. shall act as teller, announcing the whole number of balls cast, and the number of affirmative and negative votes; after which the W. C. shall re-examine the balls, and shall announce the result of the ballot.

3.—*Three negative votes* shall reject a candidate; but, if not more than three such votes appear, the Camp may proceed by special resolution, to a new ballot, and all the members present shall be called upon to vote, when, if three or more negative votes are again cast, the candidate shall be declared to be rejected; and all candidates thus rejected shall be thenceforth ineligible to membership in any Camp of the State for the term of one year, unless relieved from such disability by a unanimous vote of the rejecting Camp.

4.—*If a candidate be rejected by a negative vote of one-third the members present*, the fact, together with his name, shall be reported to the proper General Camp by the R. S., and he shall remain perpetually ineligible to membership in any Camp of the Order, unless relieved from such disability by special dispensation from a General Camp.

it shall be his duty to point out and correct the same, arresting the proceedings of the Camp for that purpose only, if necessary, by the sound of his mace.

He shall be *ex-officio* a deputy of the H. D. M. in matters having relation to the business of the Camp.

He shall preserve the seal of the Camp, and supply impressions of the same to the R. S. or his proper deputy, when required, in accordance with the regulations of the Order and the Camp.

He shall make out, sign and affix the seal to all cards required by the members of the Camp, and shall issue the same, according to the regulations of the Camp.

He shall preserve all written form-books and cards of duty and ceremony belonging to the Camp, and he shall cause them to be renewed, when required so to do by the Camp.

He shall also have charge of the Charter, the numerical cypher, and other secret work of the Order;—all which property he shall resign to the Installation Officer, at the regular time of installation, or to the duly authorized Commissioner of Suspension or Decadency.

He shall be *ex-officio* Marshal of the Camp in processions, and the Proclaimer shall be *ex-officio* his first deputy on those occasions. He shall be subordinate to the H. D. M. of the State, on such occasions, as that Officer is subordinate to the R. H. National D. M.

He shall have the right to appoint deputies with special powers, for any term not exceeding his own term of office.

4. *Duty of the Recording Secretary.*—The R. S. shall preserve correct minutes of all proceedings of the Camp. He shall keep a regular list of all members of the Camp, alphabetically arranged, with the date of their initiation, and their residence; and in case of their death, transfer, removal, reinstatement, suspension, or expulsion, he shall enter opposite their names a reference to the minute of the fact. And he shall also keep a regular list of all persons rejected by a negative vote of one-third of the members present.

He shall call all special meetings on the order of the W. C., notify all candidates of their election, fill up all certificates

when that duty is not entrusted to other hands, and make out and forward according to rule the semi-annual reports required by the Constitution of the Order, demanding of the Treasurer and Degree Master those portions of the said Reports which relate to their departments.

He shall prepare and attest all orders on the Treasurer, and shall perform such other duties as may be rendered incumbent upon him by the laws and regulations of the Order.

He shall preserve, subject to the order of the Camp, all printed documents of the Camp not otherwise appropriated by order of the Camp. Moreover: at the time of each election, in January and July, he shall draw upon the Treasurer, in due form, for the amount of *per centage* due at the time of the stated meeting next preceding said election, and shall pay over said *per centage* to the Installing Officer, prior to the ceremony of installation, taking his receipt therefor.

5. *Duty of the Treasurer.*—The Treasurer shall receive all moneys belonging to the Camp, from the Financial Secretary, giving receipts therefor. He shall file and preserve all bills passed by the Camp, approved by the W. C., and countersigned by the R. S., and pay, file and preserve all orders properly drawn upon the Treasury by the W. C., and attested by the R. S.

He shall keep distinct and accurate accounts of all money received and paid out, on behalf of the General Camp, and also on behalf of all special funds entrusted to his charge by the Camp; and he shall preserve the said accounts in books properly prepared for the purpose, and regularly posted up, which shall be placed in the hall, subject to the inspection of members at each stated meeting.

He shall render to the Camp a full and detailed report of the amounts received and paid by him, at each stated meeting preceding the regular elections in January and July, and shall deliver into the hands of the Installing Officer, all books, funds and property of his department, at each semi-annual installation.

Before entering upon the duties of his office, he shall give

5.—No member shall be admitted on the night of his election, unless he be a stranger from a distance; in which case he may be so admitted upon special resolution of the Camp.

6.—Each member, on the night of his admission, shall pay his initiation fee to the F. S., and shall enter his name and residence in a book kept for that purpose by the R. S.; and in case of his removal, he shall notify the R. S. of the same within two weeks thereof, under a penalty to be determined by the Regulations of the Camp.

V.—MEMBERS IN ARREARS.

Members who are six months in arrears to the Camp shall be ineligible to Office, Degrees, or the General Camp of Pennsylvania; and any member in arrears for one entire year shall be liable to expulsion by a vote of the Camp, except in case of protracted absence from the country.

VI.—THE RED DEGREE.

Application for the Red Degree must be made by the candidate personally, or in writing through the R. S., in open Camp, at a stated meeting; and the candidate shall be balloted for, as for membership. The affirmative votes of two-thirds of the members present shall be necessary for an election.

VII.—MEETINGS, QUORUM AND ORDER.

(See *C. of O.*, *Article 7, Section 10, p. 17.*)

Stated Meetings shall be held at such intervals, being not less than one in each month, nor more than one in each week.

Special Meetings.—No business shall be transacted at a special meeting, other than that for which it was expressly called.

Quorum.—The quorum shall be determined by each Camp, for itself, by special enactment; but the presence of at least two members of the Red Degree shall be necessary for the transaction of business.

Order of Business.—The order of business at stated meetings, after the Camp is regularly opened, shall be as follows :

1. The minutes of the last stated, and all intervening adjourned and special meetings shall be read.
2. Initiation of new members.
3. Reports of Committees on propositions for membership.
4. Balloting for new members.
5. Propositions for membership.
6. Dues collected, and financial business transacted.
7. Reports of sickness or deaths in the brotherhood.
8. Reports and accusations of delinquencies.
9. Appeals from fines entered against brethren.
10. Unfinished business.
11. Written communications from superior bodies of the Order received and acted upon.
12. Reports of committees received and acted upon.
13. Motions ; under which head written communications may be read, and, on leave, considered, or otherwise disposed of.
14. Verbal communications.
15. Adjournment in due form.

Rules of Order.—1. At one tap of the gavel of the presiding officer, all members shall be seated, and shall preserve strict silence :

At two taps of the gavel, the officers of the Camp will rise in silence :

At three taps of the gavel, the whole Camp will rise :

At one tap of the mace of the D. M., which is only to be used in case of an error in the forms and ceremonies, including the salutation, all business shall be instantly arrested, and the members will retain their actual positions at the moment :

At two taps of the mace of the D. M., the business will proceed as though the interruption had not taken place :

2. A motion to adjourn shall be debatable, if made before the hour of ten o'clock, P. M., but after that hour it shall not be debatable. Nor shall the Camp be considered as adjourned until closed in due form.

3. All questions of order shall be decided by the W. C., subject to an appeal to the Camp ; and, on all such appeals, the

W. C. shall state the decision of the Chair, the appellant may state the grounds of his appeal, and the W. C. shall then state the grounds of his decision; after which, the question, "Does the Camp support the decision?" shall be put and the result declared by the A. C.

4. The presiding officer shall sound the gavel before calling a member to order, and shall strictly enforce the fines upon all members who neglect to be seated or silent on the sounding of the gavel or mace. After the call to order, the member thus called shall be entitled to the floor for the purpose of appeal or applying for permission to proceed in order.

5. No member shall speak more than once to the merits of any question before the Camp, until all the other members wishing to speak have had an opportunity to do so, nor more than twice without permission of the Chair or Camp; but remarks to a point of order, or explanations by permission of the member on the floor, shall not be subject to this rule.

6. No member, while speaking, shall call another by his proper name, but shall use the word "brother," with the appropriate designation belonging to his station in the Order.

7. No motion shall be subject to debate until it shall have been seconded and stated by the presiding officer, and it shall be reduced to writing, at the request of any member.

8. When a motion is before the Camp, no other motion shall be received, except to adjourn, for the previous question, to lie on the table, to postpone indefinitely or to a certain time, to divide, to commit, or to amend.

9. A call for the previous question shall require a second by five members, to warrant the question, "Shall the main question be now put?" and this question shall not be debatable.

10. Every member may be required to vote on any question before the Camp, unless excused for special reasons.

11. In putting any question, the presiding officer shall inquire, before rising, "Is the Camp ready for the question?" and after he has risen to put it, no member shall speak to it.

12. The member first named on a committee shall act as chairman thereof until another is chosen by the said committee.

13. No member shall be permitted to speak or vote, unless clothed in suitable regalia.

14. On all other questions of order not determined by the superior authorities, the presiding officer shall decide according to the principles of the unwritten laws of deliberative bodies, known by the title of parliamentary usage.

15. If any member neglect to be seated and silent at the sound of the gavel, or silent at the sound of the mace, the W. C. shall remind him of his error, and if he should not immediately comply with his duty in the premises, the W. C. shall direct the R. S. to note the name of the delinquent, and append thereto a fine of one dime. If the member continue contumacious, the gavel or mace shall be sounded again, and another fine of double the amount shall be imposed in like manner. If the member still continue obdurate, the W. C. shall direct the R. S. to read this fifteenth Rule of Order, and shall then admonish the member, informing him that his continued refusal to be seated and silent will lead to his immediate exclusion for the evening. If the member still refuse obedience to the rules, he shall be ordered by the W. C. to leave the Camp; and in case he should not comply, the Camp shall be immediately closed, by the W. C. leaving the Chair vacant, and it shall be the duty of a majority of the three superior officers (*i. e.* the W. C., D. M., and A. C.) to make complaint against the offending member, at the next stated meeting, with a view to his trial under the provisions of the thirteenth Article of the Constitution of the Order. (C. of O. p. 27.)

VIII.—REGULATIONS.

Each Camp shall have power to make, and cause to be observed, additional Regulations for its government, provided they do not conflict with the Constitution and the Laws which have been, or may be, constitutionally established by superior authorities of the Order.